

REFERENCE TITLE: paycheck deductions; political purposes; limitation

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Forty-ninth Legislature
First Regular Session
2009

HB 2274

Introduced by
Representatives Crump, Barto, Murphy: Boone, Crandall, Driggs, Seel,
Weiers JP

AN ACT

AMENDING TITLE 23, CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE 7, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING SECTION 23-361.02; RELATING TO PAYMENT OF WAGES.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:
Section 1. Title 23, chapter 2, article 7, Arizona Revised Statutes,
is amended by adding section 23-361.02, to read:

23-361.02. Paycheck deductions: authorization; civil penalty; definition

A. A PUBLIC OR PRIVATE EMPLOYER IN THIS STATE SHALL NOT DEDUCT ANY PAYMENT FROM AN EMPLOYEE'S PAYCHECK FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES UNLESS THE EMPLOYEE ANNUALLY PROVIDES WRITTEN AUTHORIZATION TO THE EMPLOYER FOR THE DEDUCTION.

B. IF A DEDUCTION IS MADE FROM AN EMPLOYEE'S PAYCHECK FOR MULTIPLE PURPOSES, THE EMPLOYER SHALL OBTAIN A STATEMENT FROM EACH ENTITY TO WHICH THE DEDUCTIONS ARE PAID THAT INDICATES THE PAYMENT IS NOT USED FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES OR A STATEMENT THAT INDICATES THE MAXIMUM PERCENTAGE OF THE PAYMENT THAT IS USED FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES. THE EMPLOYER SHALL NOT DEDUCT ANY PAYMENT BEYOND THAT SPECIFIED FOR NONPOLITICAL PURPOSES WITHOUT THE ANNUAL WRITTEN PERMISSION OF THE EMPLOYEE.

C. THE ATTORNEY GENERAL SHALL ADOPT RULES THAT DESCRIBE THE ACCEPTABLE FORMS OF EMPLOYEE AUTHORIZATION AND ENTITY STATEMENTS UNDER THIS SECTION.

D. IF AN EMPLOYER IMPROPERLY DEDUCTS PAYMENTS FROM AN EMPLOYEE'S PAYCHECK FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES OR AN ENTITY PROVIDES AN INACCURATE STATEMENT UNDER THIS SECTION, THE EMPLOYER OR ENTITY IS SUBJECT TO A CIVIL PENALTY OF AT LEAST TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR EACH VIOLATION. THE ATTORNEY GENERAL SHALL IMPOSE AND COLLECT THE CIVIL PENALTIES UNDER THIS SUBSECTION AND SHALL DEPOSIT, PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 35-146 AND 35-147, ALL CIVIL PENALTIES COLLECTED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION IN THE STATE GENERAL FUND.

E. THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO ANY DEDUCTIONS FOR SAVINGS OR CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS OR DEDUCTIONS FOR EMPLOYEE RETIREE OR WELFARE BENEFITS.

F. IF AN EMPLOYEE HAS AUTHORIZED A DEDUCTION FROM THE EMPLOYEE'S PAYCHECK UNDER THIS SECTION AND THE EMPLOYEE RESIGNS MEMBERSHIP IN THE ASSOCIATION OR ORGANIZATION FOR WHICH THE DEDUCTION WAS AUTHORIZED, THE EMPLOYEE'S AUTHORIZATION FOR THE DEDUCTION IMMEDIATELY BECOMES VOID.

G. THIS SECTION DOES NOT PREEMPT ANY FEDERAL LAW.

H. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, "POLITICAL PURPOSES" MEANS SUPPORTING OR OPPOSING ANY CANDIDATE FOR PUBLIC OFFICE, POLITICAL PARTY, REFERENDUM, INITIATIVE, POLITICAL ISSUE ADVOCACY, POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE OR OTHER SIMILAR GROUP.

Sec. 2. Short title

This act may be cited as the "Protect Arizona Employees' Paychecks from Politics Act".

Sec. 3. Severability

If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this act that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this act are severable.